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SECURITY INFORMATION

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

## INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY East Germany

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SUBJECT Volkspolizei Course in Logistics in Erfurt

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DATE OF  
INFO. [REDACTED]SUPPLEMENT TO  
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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

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1. On 1 November 1952, a Volkspolizei (VP) course for logistics, which was started in Potsdam on 14 October, moved to Erfurt, because the inadequate class rooms in Potsdam had to be made available for another undetermined purpose. The course was attended by 180 NCOs and SM. The trainees were to serve as supply officers.<sup>1</sup>

2. Instructors of the course included Lieutenant Colonel Butler (fmu) school commandant; Captain Kuraff (fmu), political officer; Major Hampe (fmu), chief instructor for logistics; Senior Lieutenant Siebkow (fmu), special instructor for logistics; Captain Spring (fmu), special instructor for matters relating to clothing and equipment; Major Jorek (fmu), special instructor for billeting matters; Senior Lieutenant Zeppe (fmu), special instructor for matters relating to ration supply; and Junior Lieutenant Possner (fmu), chief of pay office.<sup>2</sup>

3. [REDACTED] the logistics section and furnished a tabulation of tactical symbols used by VP service forces.<sup>3</sup>

25X1A 1. [REDACTED] Comment. The training course was held at the installation occupied by Kasernierte Volkspolizei Dienststelle (KVPD) 3692 at the sport school of the Hauptverwaltung Kasernierte Volkspolizei (HVVKVP). It is unknown to what installation in Erfurt the training course was transferred. Another designation for this course is Verwaltungsschule der KVP (administrative school of the KVP).

25X1A 2. [REDACTED] Comment. Lieutenant Colonel Butler (fmu) was previously known as chief of the organizational department at the main department for supply of the HVVKVP.

25X1A 3. [REDACTED] Comment. For translation of these notes and for tabulation, see Annexes 1 through 3.

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Annex 1 to

Supply Tactics - Establishment of 2d Echelon Command Post.

The command post of the 2d Echelon is established on a special site improved by engineer work and with communication equipment. It is used by the deputy responsible for supply services and his staff to organize the work under his jurisdiction and to carry out the missions assigned to him, namely timely and continuous supply to the combat units. The command post includes:

- a. the observation post;
- b. the operations group subordinate to the assistant chief of staff;
- c. the message center (Nachrichtenzentrale) (NZ);
- d. the attendants' squad including clerk auxiliaries, clerks and messengers.

During an attack, the 2nd Echelon command post is located 2 or 3 km behind the 1st Echelon. Personalities occupying, or within call around, the command post include:

- a. the deputy responsible for supply services;
- b. the medical officer;
- c. the assistant chief of staff in charge of strength reports and personnel administration;
- d. the security detachment.
- e. the drivers of all motor vehicles not used in the area forward of the 2d Echelon command post together with their vehicles.

The command post will be secure against mechanized attack and camouflaged against ground and air observation. It will be furnished with approaches marked in a visible manner easy to survey. The installation will not be established near gun emplacements. On changes of the command post, the axis of advance will be fixed beforehand. An alternate command post provided with the necessary command post personnel will be established. The command post communications include radio and telephone communications. It will also be equipped with a stock of

- a. signal rockets;
- b. tracer bullets;
- c. smoke rockets.

Signals will be standardized for all units. In cases of emergency, the contact with the units to be provided with supplies will be guaranteed by the employment of messengers. The amount of work to be performed by engineer units to protect the command post are established as follows:

<u>Type of Cover</u>	<u>Thickness of Covering Layer</u>
a. Loamy soil	160 cm
b. Sandy soil	90 cm
c. Timber	100 cm
d. Masonry	50 cm
e. Armor plate	10 mm
f. Sheet iron	20 mm

For tamped soil, the thickness of the layer will be reduced by 50 percent.

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Organization and Operation of an Ammunition Point in Attack and Defense.

The combat formation is the form of the arrangement of the attacking unit. Line formation will be used by attacking units up to company level. Frontages of units in attack will be in accordance with the following table:

<u>Unit</u>	<u>Frontage</u>
a. Squad	up to 50 meters
b. Platoon	up to 120 meters
c. Company	up to 350 meters
d. Battalion	700 to 1,000 meters
e. Regiment	1,500 to 2,000 meters

The supply of ammunition to the combat units is a prerequisite for attack. The regimental ammunition point (Regimentsammunitionspunkt) (RMP) will be 3 km to the rear of the main defensive area (Hauptkampfbereich) (HKZ) before an attack, and 2 km during changes of position as occurring on marches to an assembly area. During attacks, the RMP will not be over 5 km behind the front line. The ammunition point will distribute ammunition only upon receiving a receipt. Ammunition points will be established, on principle, on well-camouflaged sites outside of towns in areas secure against mechanized attack. The point will have good facilities for incoming and outgoing shipments and must not be revealed by tracks. Ammunition points of units down to regiments will be marked with boards, and of units of, and below, battalion size with triangular markers. The ammunition point will be established in the presence of the officer in charge of artillery and infantry supply, the officer in charge of infantry supply, the medical officer and the ration supply officer. It will be located in the vicinity of the medical point. The RMP chief will keep a map of his supply area giving exact information on the boundaries of the main defensive area of friendly and enemy troops; adjacent friendly troops and their boundaries; supply routes; medical points; and other supply installations..

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Annex 3 to 25X1A

## Tactical Symbols of the National Forces in Supply

Command Posts	Evacuation Hospitals	Ammunition Points	Ration Distributing Points	Tactical Command Posts
SK			KMP no ration distributing point	
SB		BMP	SB	
SR		RMP	SR	5.SR
SD			SD	3.3R

- SK - Schuetzenkompanie (rifle company)  
 SB - Schuetzenbataillon (rifle battalion)  
 SR - Schuetzenregiment (rifle regiment)  
 SD - Schuetzendivision (rifle division)  
 KMP - Kompanie-Munitionspunkt (company ammunition point)  
 BMP - Bataillons-Munitionspunkt (battalion ammunition point)  
 RMP - Regiments-Munitionspunkt (regimental ammunition point)

On maps, designations of units will be indicated below the tactical symbols of the command posts, for instance: 1. SK. All tactical symbols of the National Forces will be sketched in red.

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